

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

**BECOME AN ORIGINAL CO-SPONSOR OF
THE EARLY TREATMENT FOR HIV ACT
(ETHA)**

May 3, 2007

Dear Republican Colleague,

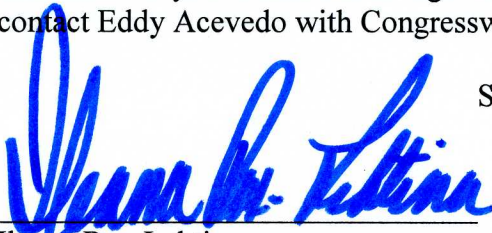
We are writing to encourage you to join us as original co-sponsors of the **Early Treatment for HIV Act (ETHA)**, legislation giving states the option to extend Medicaid coverage to low-income individuals living with HIV earlier in the course of the disease. ETHA addresses the current severe problem that often individuals must become disabled by AIDS before they can receive access to Medicaid provided care and treatment that could have prevented them from becoming ill in the first place.

States should be entitled to exercise such an option as a strategy to address the HIV/AIDS crisis in their jurisdictions. New treatments have improved both the health and quality of life for thousands. However, many insured poor and low-income Americans still do not have access to these life-saving medications because HIV positive individuals are generally not eligible for Medicaid until they are disabled by full-blown AIDS.

Our commitment to the fight against HIV/AIDS has had tremendous results in the United States. Supporting states in their efforts to ensure access to medical care will give people living with HIV the opportunity to stay healthy and live a productive life for a longer period of time.

Please join us as an original co-sponsor of the Early Treatment for HIV Act, giving states the option to extend early intervention Medicaid coverage to people living with HIV. If you would like to sign on as an original co-sponsor of this legislation please contact Eddy Acevedo with Congresswoman Ros-Lehtinen at 225-3931.

Sincerely,



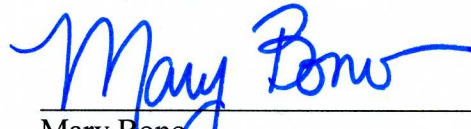
Ileana Ros-Lehtinen
Member of Congress



Christopher Shays
Member of Congress



Thaddeus McCotter
Member of Congress



Mary Bono
Member of Congress